during 1984-85 has suffered loss during 1985-86 to the extent of about Rs. one crore, mainly due to heavy increase in their input costs and blocking of their working capital as a result of sizeable outstandings from the State Governments.

(c) and (d) Managing Director, Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, has informed this Ministry that he did not have any meeting with the Minister (Industry) on 10th December, 1985. The working of the company is being constantly reviewed both at the Government level as well as through official directors on the Board of the Company, for improving its performance Steps have also been taken to appoint a successor to its present Managing Director who has submitted his resignation on health grounds.

Building complex for Hyderabad Telephones

968. SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the construction of the building complex for Hyderabad Telephones at Kandaswamy Lane, Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, what is the budget allocation for this building in the current financial year and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MNISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Commutation of pension of CTO Rajkot

969. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any letter dated 17th March, 1986 from Rajkot Pensioners' Association regarding some cases of commutation of pension without medical examination of retired Superintendent, CTO, Rajkot and other employees;

(b) whether he has also received letters dated 17th March, 1982 and 1st April, 1986 from Members of Parliament in this connection;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) Letters as per the dates indicated have not been received. However, representations have been received from Rajkot Pensioner's Association regarding the case of commutation of pension without medical examination in respect of one Shri H. S. Trivedi, retired Superintendent, C.T.O. Rajkot. This case was examined and settled in September, 1985 as per existing rules in this regard.

Opening of Post Offices in Gujarat

970. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Superintendent of Post Offices, Gundal (District Rajkot) of Gujarat State has received letters dated 6th March, 1986 from Gundal Chambers of Commerce and Industry during the period from 1st January, 1985 to 9th April, 1986 regarding opening of Sub-Post Offices at various places in the District;

(b) whether he has also received letters dated 31st March, 1986 from Gujarat Members of Parliament and VIPs during the period from 1st January, 1985 to 9th April, 1986; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Superintendent of

Post Offices Gondal has received a letter dated 6-3-86 from Gondal Chamber of Commerce and Industry for opening of a sub-Post Officer in Gondal Udyog Nagar Area. No letter for opening of post offices in Gondal District appears to have been received however from Members of Parliament from Gujarat or from other VIPs.

(c) It has not been possible to open a sub-post office at Udyog Nagar because there is another post office at Gajrajpura at a distance of only 1 kilometer from Udyog Nagar area. According to the prescribed norms, in urban areas, no new post office is opened within 1.5 Km of an existing post office.

Communication policy

971. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring any communication policy;

(b) if so, what are the main outlines of the said policy; and

(c) by what time it will be finalised and announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have been considering to draft a National Communication Policy.

(b) and (c) The reduced 7th Plan outlay and the re-organisation of the structure of the Telecommunications service have necessitated a reconsideration whether a National Communication policy is possible at this stage.

Increase in the Telecommunication Tariffs

972. SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Secretary in the Ministry of Communications has recently stated in a Press Conference that Telecommunication Tariffs are going to be increased and that a report has been sent to the Government in that regard;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Secretary, Telecommunications had mentioned in a Press Conference that in view of the rising costs some upward adjustment in the Telecommunication Tariffs may become inevitable.

(b) and (c) Government has not taken any decision about increase in Telecommunication tariffs.

Irregular supply of Alcohol (Rectified Spirit)

973. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irregular/non-supply of adequate quantity of Alcohol (Rectified Spirit) in West Bengal is causing serious crisis to Homoeopathic Medicine industry in the West Bengal.

(b) whether the Homoeopathic Medicine Industry as well as the workers and employees' Union of the Industry have drawn attention of Government to this crisis and have urged for immediate supply of alcohol so that the industry can survive; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken so far in the matter?